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METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OPERATING NETWORKED GAMING DEVICES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A system for monitoring and configuring gaming devices
interconnected over a high-speed network is disclosed. The system can
support a file server, one or more floor controllers, one or more pit
terminals, and other terminals all interconnected over the network. Each
10 gaming device includes an electronic module which allows the gaming
device to communicate with a floor controller over a current loop network.
The electronic module includes a player tracking module and a data
communication node. The player tracking module includes a card reader
for detecting a player tracking card inserted therein which identifies the
15 player. The data communication node communicates with both the floor
controller and the gaming device. The data communication node
communicates with the gaming device over a serial interface through
which the data communication node transmits reconfiguration
commands. The gaming device reconfigures its payout schedule
20 responsive to the reconfiguration commands to provide a variety of
promotional bonuses such as multiple jackpot bonuses, mystery jackpot
bonuses, progressive jackpot bonuses, or player specific bonuses.

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